

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 AGRE-00
AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01
TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /117 W
-----190052Z 124916 /66

R 152252Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5596
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
USUN 521

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GUATEMALA 2310

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PLOS GT
SUBJECT: GUATEMALAN VIEWS ON LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE

1. FRANCISCO VILLAGRAN KRAMER, INTERNATIONAL LAWYER WHO IS GUATEMALA'S LEADING EXPERT OF LOS, TOLD EMBOFF THAT HE AND GUSTAVO SANTISO, AMBASSADOR AT GENEVA, WILL BE PRINCIPAL GUATEMALAN DELEGATES TO NEXT SESSION OF LOS CONFERENCE. VILLAGRAN SAID HE WOULD LEAVE FOR NEW YORK ABOUT MAY 20.

2. VILLAGRAN SAID HE THOUGHT THERE WOULD BE RELATIVELY LITTLE PROBLEM AT THE CONFERENCE IN AGREEING ON A SUIGENERIS STATUS FOR THE 200 MILE ZONE, IN EFFECT GIVING IT HIGH SEAS STATUS FOR ALL THE PURPOSES THAT INTEREST THE US. HE INDICATED THIS WAS GUATEMALA'S VIEW AND THAT OF THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY.

3. VILLAGRAN SAID THE MOST DIFFICULT PROBLEM REMAINING FOR THE CONFERENCE, AND THE ONE OF GREATEST INTEREST TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GUATEMALA, IS THE FRAMING OF THE REGULATIONS TO GOVERN DEEP SEABED MINING. GUATEMALA IS STRONGLY INTERESTED IN ESTABLISHING SOME KIND OF LIMITATION OR QUOTA, OR AT LEAST THE PRINCIPLE THAT THERE SHOULD BE LIMINATION, ON THE AMOUNTS OF MINERALS THAT CAN BE MINED. GUATEMALA WILL BEGIN EXPORTING NICKEL ORE THIS YEAR, AND IS CONCERNED BY THE PROSPECT THAT LARGE AMOUNTS OF NICKEL

WILL BE RECOVERED FROM THE DEEP SEABED AS A BY-PRODUCT OF MANGANESE MINING. THAT DEVELOPMENT WOULD, OF COURSE, AFFECT THE MARKET FOR GUATEMALAN NICKEL. HE SAID GUATEMALA WAS NOT OPPOSED TO NICKEL RECOVERY FROM THE DEEP SEABED, BUT ONLY SOUGHT SOME SORT OF ASSURANCE THAT PRODUCTION WOULD NOT BE SO HEAVY AS TO DESTROY LAND-BASED NICKEL MINING.

4. VILLAGRAN COMMENTED THAT GUATEMALANS PLAN TO TELL OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GROUP OF 77 THAT THIS IS THE LAST LOS SESSION THEY PLAN TO ATTEND. THE EXPENSE OF SENDING DELEGATES TO AN INTERMINABLE CONFERENCE WAS TOO GREAT AND UNLESS AGREEMENT ON A TREATY IS REACHED AT THIS SESSION GUATEMALA WILL NOT ATTEND THE NEXT.
BOSTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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